SOUTH

BAYLOR



HOUSTON

BIG 12

BEARS

26-2

COUGARS

AAC

LUCAS OIL STADIUM | INDIANAPOLIS

APRIL 3 | 5:14 P.M. ET | CBS



WHY BAYLOR WILL WIN

Put simply, Baylor has dominated nearly every time it has taken the court. The Bears are averaging 74.5 points per game during the tournament, and their most challenging contest was a nine-point win against No. 3 Arkansas. Baylor has only lost twice this season. At 83 points per game, the Bears trail only Gonzaga nationally in scoring offense among remaining tournament teams.

WHY BAYLOR WON'T WIN

Rebounding could be the Bears' demise. Baylor is ranked 59th nationally in rebound margin at +3. The Cougars, meanwhile, and their +9 margin is the highest of remaining tournament teams. Houston's skill at rebounding helped secure close wins against Rutgers and Oregon State. Gonzaga isn't far behind

COACH



Scott Drew

18th season

Baylor's men's team hasn't been to the Final Four in 71 vears.

Justin Gorham SR | F

WHY HOUSTON WILL WIN

Houston coach Kelvin Sampson has the Cougars peaking at the right time. Stars Quentin Grimes (18 points per game), Marcus Sasser (13.5 points per game) and DeJon Jarreau (10.8 points per game) have done their best to put their team within reach of its first title in school history. The Cougars have won 11 in a row and appear as locked in as any of the four remaining teams.

WHY HOUSTON WON'T WIN

Much has been made about the Cougars reaching the Final Four without having played a single-digit seed up until this point in the tournament. Houston scratched out three-point and six-point wins against Rutgers and Oregon State, respectively. Lulls like that against more talented teams will keep Houston away from the title.

COACH



Kelvin Sampson 7th season

Houston will make its first appearance in the Final Four since 1984.

LUCAS OIL STADIUM, **INDIANAPOLIS**

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

APRIL 5, 2021 9 P.M. ET



WHY GONZAGA WILL WIN

Gonzaga is an undefeated team with tons of firepower, led by senior forward Corey Kispert, sophomore forward Drew Timme and freshman guard Jalen Suggs. The Zags share the ball as well as any team in college basketball. They are the deepest team in college basketball, with eight to nine different players capable of scoring in double figures in any given game.

WHY GONZAGA WON'T WIN

The pressure of staying unbeaten (and becoming the first team since Indiana in 1975-76 to do it) could take its toll in the Final Four, like it did to UNLV in 1991 and Kentucky in 2015. The Zags are prone to occasional defensive lapses. Gonzaga relies heavily on turnovers and getting in transition for points and could get bogged down in a halfcourt game.

COACH



Few 21st season

Gonzaga is making its second trip to the Final Four (2017 was first).



WHY UCLA WILL WIN

Head coach Mick Cronin and his UCLA staff have been uncanny in their ability to make adjustments throughout the NCAA tournament. Sophomore swingman Johnny Juzang, a Kentucky transfer, is an impact offensive player who is tough to guard. Juzang is averaging 21.6 points in the tournament. UCLA has taken on the personality of Cronin and will fight and scrap defensively every possession.

WHY UCLA WON'T WIN

The Bruins, a First Four participant, are worn down physically after playing five games in 12 days to reach the Final Four. UCLA is prone to scoring droughts. The team's best inside player, junior forward Cody Riley, often gets in foul trouble, and the Bruins' inside scoring and rebounding suffers without him on the floor.

COACH



Mick Cronin 2nd season

UCLA is in its 19th **Final Four** and has won 11 national titles.

WEST SEE

ONZAGA

WCC ZAGS 30-0

PAC -12

EAST

LUCAS OIL STADIUM | INDIANAPOLIS

22-9

APRIL 3 | 8:34 P.M. ET | CBS

BRUINS